



New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	CP&P	Child Protection & Permanency	Effective Date:
Volume:	VIII	Human Trafficking	
Chapter:	C	Human Trafficking	1-3-2014
Subchapter:	1	Human Trafficking	
Issuance:	300	Investigating Human Trafficking Allegations	

Purpose:

This issuance establishes the policy and procedures on investigating human trafficking allegations.

Authority:

- Executive Authority Pursuant to N.J.S.A 9:3A-1 et seq.

Policy:

A) CP&P's Mandate

CP&P shall investigate all allegations of child abuse or neglect related to human trafficking, including cases of servitude and sexual exploitation of a child by a caregiver.

B) Reports From Law Enforcement, Courts, Hospitals and Other Professionals

Reports made by law enforcement, courts, hospitals, service providers or other federal, state or local government entities alleging human trafficking, require an immediate response, except as provided for in [CP&P-II-C-4-100](#) or the DCF/Law Enforcement Model Coordinated Response Protocol (see [IAIU-I-A-1-2100](#))

C) Contacting Law Enforcement and the NJ Office of the Attorney General

The Child Protection Investigator shall notify the NJ Office of the Attorney General and the Polaris Project within 24 hours of receiving a report of human trafficking. Satisfaction of this requirement does not relieve the investigator of obligations to notify law enforcement or county prosecutors contained elsewhere in policy.

Procedures:

A) Contacting the Attorney General and Polaris Project Hotlines

Once the Local Office receives a human trafficking report, the assigned Worker contacts the NJ Office of the Attorney General at the 24-hour NJ Human Trafficking Hotline at 855-363-6548 (855 END NJ HT). The Worker also contacts the Polaris Project's information line at their National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888 within 24 hours of receiving the report from SCR.

B) Conducting a Home Visit

The Worker adheres to policies and procedure outlined in [CP&P-II-C-5-800](#), Investigation of Abuse/Neglect Referral and Reports, for preparing for and conducting a home visit. In addition, the Worker consults with his or her Supervisor regarding the assistance of the Human Services police during the visit.

While conducting the home visit, the Worker pays specific attention to the following including but not limited to:

- Any strange objects, including cages (with no pets), zip lock ties on the cages, mattresses on the floor or more mattresses than people in the home
- Lack of furniture in the home;
- Stacks of sealed boxes; and
- Heavy foot-traffic in and out of the home.

The Worker should be inquisitive about things noticed but should not be confrontational. The Worker makes a note of any "suspicious" item or situation and informs his or her Supervisor.

C) Interview the Child Victim

The Worker interviews the child victim as outlined [CP&P-II-C-5-1000](#), Direct Contact with the Child Victim. During the interview, the Worker takes specific notice of the following traits which would indicate human trafficking involvement:

- Language (street slang),
- Branding or tattoos,
- Unexplained source of money,
- Running away from home for large amounts of time,
- Unwilling to disclose whereabouts,
- Lack of eye contact,
- Provocative dress,
- Spending a large amount of time with older and controlling men,
- Restrictive communication, and
- Unexplained injuries or signs of abuse.

The Worker provides continuous updates to his or her Supervisor as the investigation continues.

D) Referrals to Children's System of Care (CSOC) for Placement, Diagnostic Services and Treatment

If the Worker and Supervisor determine that the child is in need of specialized treatment or placement related to human trafficking, the worker facilitates such services through CSOC by calling Perform Care at 1-877-652-7624.

E) Reunification

When CP&P is preparing to reunify a youth or adolescent victim of human trafficking with his or her family, the Worker:

- Ensures that the parents follow up with any and all medical needs relating the suspected incident;
- Contacts the child's physician within 24 hours to confirm medical attention was given to the child; Obtain medical records of the child's current treatment/diagnosis and relevant past treatments.
- Completes the Family Reunification Assessment required by [CP&P-III-B-6-600](#), and documents in a NJS case note any concerns about the home environment that may have contributed to human trafficking involvement.

F) Lack of Parental/Custodial Cooperation

If the parent or legal guardian refuses to obtain medical treatment for a child victim of human trafficking, or refuses to reunify with the child victim, the Worker consults with the DAG regarding legal action to obtain custody of the child. Such abandonment may be the basis of abuse or neglect findings against the parent or legal guardian.

Key Terms (Definitions):

None

Forms and Attachments:

None

Related Information:

- [CP&P-II-C-5-800](#), for policies and procedures relating to investigation of child abuse/neglect cases.
- [CP&P-II-A-1-100](#)